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Express Mail Label No. EV 622 977 205 US  
Attorney Docket No. 33993/US

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of:

Konrad Welfonder

Appln. No.: 10/777,377

Filed: 11 February 2004

For: CORD TENSIONER

Confirmation No.: 4599

Group Art Unit: 3634

Examiner: Johnson, Blair M.

Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**  
**Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c)(2) and § 1.98**

Sir:

The Examiner is requested to consider the references noted on the enclosed Form PTO/SB/08A during examination of the above-identified patent application. The references are submitted for the Examiner's consideration and are submitted pursuant to the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56. In submitting the references, no representation is made or implied that the references are or are not material to the examination of the application. The Examiner is encouraged to make his or her own determination of materiality. Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(2)(ii), copies of the U.S. patent references are not provided, unless required by the Office.

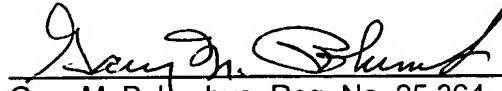
Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c)(2) and § 1.17(p), a check in the amount of \$180.00 is enclosed with this filing. However, if any fees are deemed necessary, such fees may be charged to Deposit Account No. 04-1415.

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If the examiner has any questions, please contact the undersigned attorney.

Dated: March 20, 2006

Respectfully submitted,



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Enclosure  
cc: HDI and HDBV (HH-242.10-353)



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**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING BY EXPRESS MAIL**

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**EV622977205US**

Sir:

The undersigned hereby certifies that the following documents:

1. Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c)(2) and § 1.98 (2 pages);
2. Information Disclosure Statement by Applicant (Form PTO/SB/08A) (1 page);
3. Check for \$180.00;
4. Certificate of Mailing by Express Mail (1 page); and
5. Return Card,

relating to the above application, were deposited as "Express Mail," under 37 C.F.R. § 1.10, Mailing Label No. EV 622 977 205 US with the United States Postal Service, addressed to Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on this 21 day of March 2006.

*Jane Holis*

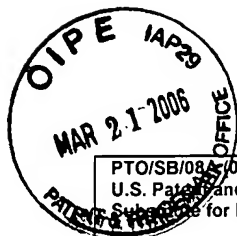
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<b>PTO/SB/08A (08-03)</b> U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE Substitute for Form 1449A/PTO	<b>APPLICATION NO.:</b> 10/777,377	<b>FILING DATE:</b> 11 February 2004
	<b>FIRST NAMED INVENTOR:</b> Konrad Welfonder	<b>ART UNIT:</b> 3634
	<b>EXAMINER NAME:</b> Johnson, Blair M.	<b>ATTY. DOCKET NO.:</b> 33993/US

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE  
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

*(Use as many sheets as necessary)*

**U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

EXAMINER INITIALS*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	PATENT NUMBER	ISSUE DATE	Name of Patentee of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number – Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)	MM-DD-YYYY		
		2,830,808	04/15/1958	Graber	
		3,112,103	11/26/1963	Falkenberg	
		3,151,857	10/06/1964	Falkenberg	
		3,945,264	03/23/1976	Falkenberg	
		5,752,558	05/19/1998	Lin	
		6,792,999 B2	09/21/2004	Cross et al.	

**U.S. PUBLICATION DOCUMENTS**

EXAMINER INITIALS*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	PUBLICATION NUMBER	PUBLICATION DATE	Name of Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number – Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)	MM-DD-YYYY		

**FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

EXAMINER INITIALS*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	DOCUMENT NUMBER	PUBLICATION DATE	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T <sup>6</sup>
		Country Code <sup>3</sup> – Number <sup>4</sup> – Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)	MM-DD-YYYY			

**OTHER PRIOR ART – NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS**

EXAMINER INITIALS*	Cite No. <sup>2</sup>	Include name of Author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T <sup>3</sup>

EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED
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EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

<sup>1</sup> Applicant's unique citation number (optional). <sup>2</sup> See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov) or MPEP 901.04. <sup>3</sup> Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup> Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>5</sup> For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>6</sup> Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. <sup>7</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.